

Date Mailed
May 16, 2000

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of Wisconsin Gas Company, as a Gas Public
Utility, for Authority to Construct Natural Gas Facilities in
Dunn and St. Croix Counties and to Provide Natural Gas
Service in the Village of Knapp, Dunn County, Wisconsin.

6650-CG-200

**NOTICE OF PROCEEDING
AND
INVESTIGATION AND ASSESSMENT OF COSTS**

THIS IS A PROCEEDING TO consider the April 18, 2000, application of Wisconsin Gas Company (WGC), as a gas public utility, for authority under Wis. Stat. § 196.49, and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 133, to install a supply main connecting two existing distribution systems and to install distribution facilities to provide natural gas service in the Village of Knapp, Dunn County, Wisconsin.

WGC is a gas public utility, as defined in Wis. Stat. § 196.01 (5), engaged in the business of distributing and selling natural gas to the public in the City of Milwaukee and its suburban areas and in other Wisconsin cities, villages, and towns, including several municipalities in the area of the proposed project.

WGC has an existing distribution system that serves the Villages of Boyceville and Downing and the Town of Tiffany, Dunn County (the Boyceville system). The Boyceville system is connected to Viking Gas Transmission Company (Viking) interstate pipeline facilities. WGC also has existing interconnected distribution systems that serve areas in St. Croix and Pierce Counties, including the Villages of Baldwin, Woodville and Spring Valley. The Baldwin, Woodville and Spring Valley distribution systems are connected to Northern Natural Gas Company (NNG) interstate pipeline facilities.

WGC proposes to install approximately 17.5 miles of 8-inch steel supply main and to uprate existing supply main to connect the Boyceville system to the interconnected Baldwin, Woodville and Spring Valley distribution systems at an estimated cost of \$2,587,600. WGC states that the proposed new supply main would increase the reliability of the existing distribution systems and would allow the Baldwin, Woodville and Spring Valley distribution systems to receive natural gas supplies from Viking. The new supply main would be constructed within road rights-of-way.

WGC also proposes to extend, from the proposed new supply main, new distribution main into the Village of Knapp, Dunn County. The proposed distribution extension would include approximately 17,425 feet of 4-inch, 9,150 feet of 3-inch, 3,500 feet of 2-inch, and 4,700 feet of 1 1/4-inch plastic main at an estimated cost of \$380,800. No natural gas utility is currently authorized to provide natural gas service in the Village of Knapp.

The proposed WGC supply main and distribution extension pass through the Village of Wilson, St. Croix County, and the Town of Stanton, Dunn County. WGC is not currently authorized to provide natural gas service in either the Village of Wilson or the Town of Stanton. WGC states in the application that WGC intends to seek Commission authority to provide natural gas service in the Village of Wilson and the Town of Stanton in a separate application.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Commission considers it necessary, in order to carry out its duties, to investigate all books, accounts, practices, and activities of the applicant. The expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Commission which are reasonably attributable to such an investigation will be assessed against and collected from the applicant in accordance with the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 196.85 and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 5.

This is a Type II action under Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 4.10(2). Commission staff will prepare an environmental assessment to determine if the preparation of an environmental impact statement is necessary under Wis. Stat. § 1.11. Persons wishing to contribute environmental information for consideration should contact Michael John Jaeger at (608) 267-2546, e-mail address: jaegem@psc.state.wi.us.

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this proceeding or who needs to obtain this document in a different format should contact the case coordinator listed below.

Questions from the media may be directed to Jeffrey L. Butson, Public Affairs Director at (608) 267-0912.

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to case coordinator Tom Stemrich at (608) 266-2800.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, _____

By the Commission:

Lynda L. Dorr
Secretary to the Commission